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WEEKLY



VOL 1 NO 2 TEL/FAX: (03) 9645 1440 Email: goalweekly@yahoo.com P.O BOX 142 PORT MELBOURNE 3207

GULLY ASSUMES THE POSITION

INSIDE

**VPL
WRAP**
Pages
4 & 5

THEN & NOW
Page 6

**PINES
COLOUR TEAM
POSTER**
Pages
8 & 9

**BOO'S
WORLD**
Page
11

**OVERSEAS
FOOTBALL**
Page 14

FOOTBALL QUIZ
Page 13

**16 ACTION
PACKED
PAGES!!!**



High flying Green Gully Cavaliers once again assume the pole position of the Vodafone Premier League after defeating arch-rivals Sunshine Georgies 2 - 1 at Green Gully Reserve on Sunday. In front of a healthy crowd of almost 2000 spectators, the Cavaliers are the only team to maintain a perfect start to the season and have set the early pace in this year's title chase.

PREMIER LEAGUE LATEST RESULTS

**CAVALIERS 2
GEORGIES 1**

**LIONS 2
KNIGHTS 2**

**GREENS 2
ZEBRAS 1**

**SOUTH 1
SAINTS 0**

**HEIDELBERG 2
PINES 0**

**ROYALS 1
MAGIC 0**

**BLUES 0
CANNONS 2**

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SOCCER HOTLINE

Optimism at Cranbourne Comets

By Steven Gray

Last season results in mixed fortune for the Cranbourne Comets with the State League 2 senior's team almost succumbing to relegation due to a poor run of results during at the end of the season whilst the women's team once again excelled by first winning the league title and then competed in the very first Grand Final for the Women's Premier League. Yes, the they may have lost to Box Hill Inter in the final but the words of club President Karien Watson echoed the sentiments of those involved at the club when he said that "I'm proud as punch" and commented on what a great experience it was to see the girl's participate at Bob Jane in a Grand Final.

Already optimism is high at the Comets with a very good turn out in training. 30 or there-about players have been showing up for the men's and the all the familiar faces out in force for the women's. Deborah Nichols remains as coach for the women's team for 2005 season.

Its only weeks away from the start of the Vodafone Women's Premier League and the first match will be contested between last season Grand Finalist Cranbourne Comets and reigning champions and arch rivals Box Hill Inter. The match will be held at Wembley Park on the 4th of March with kickoff times 6:30 for reserves and 8:30 for seniors.

One of the main concerns though for the men's team is the lack of striker power up front. The club are looking for ways to strengthen this aspect of the team and will be looking hard for this vital ingredient to build a successful team. Newly appointed Coach Dale White has his work cut out.

This season also marks a milestone in the clubs history as they will be celebrating their 30th anniversary. Naturally like all clubs in this situation they will be hoping there 30th will bring home new trophies to show off in the display cabinet.

On a final note their is also great news in that the building work for the extensions to the club rooms will be likely to commence in March. Four new change rooms and toilets are the major part of the extensions as the current two are completely inadequate for the demands that are imposed from all the teams that use the Comets Stadium facilities.

Oakleigh Cannons Moves Forward With Stand Plans

By Steven Gray

After a successful return to the Victorian Premier League last year for Oakleigh Cannons that resulted in a second place finish in the league, plans are now underway to further set in concrete Oakleigh Cannons as a Premier League player for the long term.

With regulations for 2006 stating that clubs will be required to have both lights and undercover seating to be viable Premier League club, Oakleigh Cannons still need to work on the later and that is exactly what they are striving to have by next season.

Whilst plans are still being worked out with the council there seems no question of doubt that the Oakleigh Cannons will be ready for 2006. Already they are fast becoming the place to be on Friday nights with a large crowd attending for the first round match against Essendon Royals.

Sun shining at Somers Street

Melbourne Knights have announced their intentions of getting Somers Street into full swing. A new young committee headed by President, Stan Bilic, has brought about a new injection of enthusiasm and drive for season 2005. They've just signed up their twelve hundredth member and expect to have that doubled by season's end. On top of that, as was announced last week, the Knights have joined forces with the Compass Group, Elite Cranes and Billic Homes to the tune of \$100,000.

Meanwhile on the senior pitch, coach Zlatko Vego, is slowly gelling his side together. He can look forward to having Daniel Piorkowski back from injury and recent signings Chris Emsovski (Preston), Tom Milardovic and Neven Antic (St Albans) are also finding their feet in their new surrounds.

The boys also have a end of season Soccer Carvival to look forward to in October involving sister clubs from Canberra, South Australia, New South Wales and Western Australia All this, and the club's on the premises cafe is not only open on match days but during the week as well.

Change Of Kick-Off Times For South Melbourne FC

The VSF has agreed to a request from South Melbourne FC to amend the kick-off times for the following Vodafone Premier League matches.

New match details are as follows:

Round 2	South Melbourne FC vs St. Albans Saints	3:45/6:15PM
Round 6	South Melbourne FC vs Altona Magic	3:45/6:15PM
Round 8	South Melbourne FC vs Sunshine Georgies	3:45/6:15PM
Round 10	South Melbourne FC vs Preston Lions	3:45/6:15PM

Royals v Georgies at Port
Essendon Royals SC have changed their home playing venue for the Round 4 clash against Sunshine Georgies. Their current home ground, Veneto Club, is unavailable on that date.

New match details are as follows:

Vodafone Premier League Round 4 – Change of Venue
Friday, 25th February 2005
Essendon Royals SC vs Sunshine Georgies SC
Kick-off:
Reserves: 6:15PM
Seniors: 8:15PM

Venue: SS Anderson Reserve, Plummer St, Port Melbourne Mel Ref: 56-K1



Stan “the man” Bilic

Rumour has it that St Albans coach Srecko Barisic is on shaky ground after conceding consecutive losses. The whisper is he will be doing well to be leading the team the next time the Saints take the field in Round 3 of the Vodafone VPL.

Round 12
South Melbourne FC vs Fawkner / Whittlesea 1:00/3:15PM
Round 16
South Melbourne FC vs Frankston Pines 1:00/3:15PM
Round 17
South Melbourne FC vs Bulleen Zebras 1:00/3:15PM
Round 18
South Melbourne FC vs Oakleigh Cannons 1:00/3:15PM
Round 20
South Melbourne FC vs Melbourne Knights FC 1:00/3:15PM
Round 22
South Melbourne FC vs Green Gully Cavaliers 1:00/3:15PM
Round 24
South Melbourne FC vs Essendon Royals 1:00/3:15PM

SHORT PASSES

Cranbourne Comets have just launched its website. Information on the club can be found throughout the season at www.cranbournecomets.com

Frankston Pines and former VIS youngster Semir Sevic is out for 2-3 weeks after undergoing a nose operation.

State League club Brunswick City has just signed Canadian player

Hailing from the Sunshine Coast, and normally playing on the right side of midfield, Tyson Holmes has been signed by Frankston Pines on a free transfer.

Preston Lions have just signed sweeper, Mike Lilllee, from New Zealand .He arrives in Melbourne on the 27th of February.

Preston are also said to be in talks with bringing an Aussie player based in New Zealand over to Connor Reserve. Details to follow soon.

Langwarrin and Springvale White Eagles played a practice match on Saturday as they prepare for the commencement of the State League Division One Championship. Springvale won 2-0.

Premier League champs, Bulleen Zebras, report that Billy Salevski is back and available for selection after being away on duty for the Young Socceroos.

Meanwhile, Zebra's Dean Tartaglia looks set to be ready for the Heidelberg United game in Round 3 after suffering from a muscle strain of the midriff.

Preston Lions are looking for junior players aged 8-18 for this season. Training starts next week, so anyone who fancies a trial should get in touch with the club on They've got plans to put together a first rate football academy as well.

Bulleen Juniors are looking for players. For further details contact Frank De Angelis on 9852 1511

Brian Sinclair has been appointed coach of State League South East Three side, Sandringham City, for the upcoming season.

David Della Rocca, a tall defensive player has signed with State League Division One side Brunswick City. David has played at National League level with Carlton and will give the Brunswick defense a bit more height.

Sydney FC are in negotiations with Ned Zelic who will only be enticed if the terms are right for him to come back.

Heidelberg's Robert Liparoti has suffered a knee injury during Sunday's game. The club must wait a couple of days to find out if he will need an arthro-scope.

VODAFONE PREMIER LEAGUE DETAILS

ROUND TWO DETAILS

BENTLEIGH GREENS 2 – BULLEEN ZEBRAS 1

(HT 1-0)
Goals: Diaco 49th (BZ), Veljovic 16th (BG), Madeira 67th (BG).

Yellow Cards: Kakos (BZ)
Red Cards: None.

BENTLEIGH line-up: C.Morales, V.Bontemps, M.Kostura, T.Constantinou, C.Driver, I.Madeira, I.Khrapko (V.Pittito), T.Psonis (J.Karanicolas), N.Veljovic, M.Pena (J.Kotsovolos), M.Karas.

BULLEEN line-up: M.Theoklitis, R.Ollerton, S.Drakos, R.Antoniadis, M.Mazzini, J.Kozic (Z.Atonasovski), D.Vucinic (S.Martin), R.Diaco, P.Kakos, A.Drakos (B.Celeski), D.Guglielmi.

Crowd: 450.

PRESTON LIONS 2 – MELBOURNE KNIGHTS 2

(HT 0-1)
Goals: Magnacca (PL), Sapazovski (PL), Caldwell (MK), Kiratzoglou (MK).

Yellow Cards: none.
Red Cards: none.

PRESTON line-up: D.Zilic, L.Anastasiou (R.Dolevski), Z.Younan, H.Vrbovac, S.Pace (T.Grozdanovski), S.Oksuz, S.Manceski, A.Magnacca, M.Miskas (J.Cvetanovski), R.Sekulovski, J.Sapazovski.

KNIGHTS line-up: A.Cagalj, N.Antic, D.Rocco, D.Piorkowski, T.Milardovic, I.Gelemanovic (I.Klarica), D.Matkovic, T.Razov (M.Jurijevic), C.Emsovski, N.Caldwell, A.Kiratzoglou (A.Gjuni).

Crowd: 4550.

HEIDELBERG UNITED 2 – FRANKSTON PINES 0

(HT 1-0)
Goals: Damianos (HU), Goutzioulis (HU)

Yellow Cards: Liparoti (HU), Goutzioulis (HU), Tsioulis (HU), Simon Webster (FP), Armour (FP).
Red Cards: none.

HEIDELBERG line-up: L.Acevski, R.Liparoti (G.Tsoulis), I.Erdogan, P.Roberts, B.Damianos (K.Simsek), S.Pantelidis, J.Tricarico, A.Goutzioulis (E.Vassiliadis), F.De Amicis, Y.Yusuf, T.Ouliaris.

FRANKSTON line-up: M.Sutalo, J.Cumming (S.Athanasopolous), T.Malcolm, A.Edgear, Scott Webster, Simon Webster, N.Waite (S.Tagliaferro), C.Leopold, M.Durand (B.Ovcin), C.Elvin, B.Armour.

Crowd: 2500.

GREEN GULLY CAVALIERS 2 – SUNSHINE GEORGIES 1

(HT 2-1)
Goals: R.Vargas (GG), Tsaltas (GG), Gilmour (SG)

Yellow Cards: R.Vargas (GG), Fak (GG), Kelic (GG), Nastevski (GG), Antoniadis (SG).
Red Cards: none

GREEN GULLY line-up: P.Schwalger, R.Vargas, D.Fak, Z.Markovski, B.Vassallo, A.Kelic (M.Batinovic), H.Velkovski, D.Nastevski, A.Vargas (J.Rajher), L.Lapsansky, N.Tsaltas.

SUNSHINE line-up: R.Brian, P.Spiteri, Z.Pajic, M.Pace (B.Lojanica), T.Antoniadis, D.Delic, B.Gilmour (C.Greechan), T.Watsonson, E.Muscat, M.Gasparis, T.Neceski.

Crowd: 1700.

SOUTH MELBOURNE 1 – ST ALBANS SAINTS 0

(HT 1-0)
Goals: Coveny (SM).

Yellow Cards: O'Dor (SM), Salapisidis (SM), Koutsoupias (SM), Filipovic (SA).
Red Cards: none.

SOUTH line-up: D.Anastasiadis, A.Tsonis, S.O'Dor, G.Tzirtis (P.Koutsoupias, E.Karavitis, V.Coveny, V.Natsioulas, A.Tsirtsakis, K.Salapasidis, R.Dinse (J.Krncevic), S.MacNicol.

ST ALBANS line-up: S.Gal, J.Suric, M.Paleka (R.Pete), V.Buljubasic, I.Filipovic, A.Paleka, I.Razov, I.Franjic, J.Bosnic, P.Bossio, I.Dragicevic.

Crowd: 3000.

ESSENDON ROYALS 1 – ALTONA MAGIC 0

(HT 0-0)
Goals: M.Catalano (ER).

Yellow Cards: F.Catalano (ER), Becvinovski (AM).
Red Cards: none.

ESSENDON line-up: J.Davey, S.Pir, N.Thomas, M.Mediedovic, T.Celentano, S.Iosifidis (R.Chillico), L.Catalano (R.Catalano), F.Catalano (M.Catalano), T.Chillico, B.Harbinson, M.Curcija.

ALTONA line-up: M.John, S.Mrkela, C.Azzopardi, M.Stergiopoulos (J.Dimitrievski), D.Madenovic, A.Opazo, S.Becvinovski, S.Riddle (R.Divitto), P.Cergovski, C.Pino (I.Kolevski), S.Bozinovski

2005 Mens Vodafone Premier League: Seniors

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Green Gully Cavs	2	2	0	0	3	1	6
Oakleigh Cannons	2	1	1	0	4	2	4
Heidelberg United	2	1	1	0	2	0	4
Essendon Royals	2	1	1	0	3	2	4
South Melbourne	2	1	1	0	1	0	4
Frankston Pines	2	1	0	1	4	2	3
Sunshine Georgies	2	1	0	1	3	2	3
Bentleigh Greens	2	1	0	1	2	5	3
Preston Lions	2	0	2	0	4	4	2
Altona Magic	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Bulleen Zebras	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Melbourne Knights	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Fawkner-Whittlesea	2	0	1	1	1	3	1
St Albans Saints	2	0	0	2	0	3	0

GOAL! WEEKLY
WISHES
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VERY BEST FOR
SEASON 2005

Weekend Weather Report

Trend for
Saturday, Sunday and Monday

Mainly fine and mild.
Low to mid 20's.

Under 21s Results - Round 2

Green Gully Cavs 1 v 6 Sunshine Georgies
South Melbourne v St. Albans Saints, Game Abandoned
Heidelberg United 1 v 3 Frankston Pines
Preston Lions 1 v 2 Melbourne Knights
Bentleigh Greens 2 v 1 Bulleen Zebras
Essendon Royals 1 v 2 Altona Magic
Fawkner-Whittlesea 2 v 1 Oakleigh Cannons

2005 Mens Vodafone Premier League: Under 21s

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sunshine Georgies	2	2	0	0	11	3	6
Frankston Pines	2	2	0	0	8	2	6
Altona Magic	2	2	0	0	5	1	6
Fawkner-Whittlesea	2	2	0	0	4	1	6
South Melbourne	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Melbourne Knights	2	1	0	1	4	4	3
Oakleigh Cannons	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Bentleigh Greens	2	1	0	1	3	6	3
Green Gully Cavs	2	1	0	1	4	8	3
Essendon Royals	2	0	0	2	1	3	0
Heidelberg United	2	0	0	2	2	5	0
St. Albans Saints	1	0	0	1	2	5	0
Bulleen Zebras	2	0	0	2	1	4	0
Preston Lions	2	0	0	2	1	5	0

FAWKNER WHITTLESEA 0 – OAKLEIGH CANNONS 2

(HT 0-1)
Goals: Panopoulos (OC), Drossos (OC)

Yellow Cards: Angelovski (FW), Kovacic (OC), Goutzioulis (OC), Drossos (OC).
Red Cards: none.

FAWKNER WHITTLESEA line-up: S.Tilovski, J.Angelovski, R.Cardillo, C.Recchia, M.Bosevski, M.Murdocca, J.Spiteri (F.Tramontana), M.Sterjovski, V.Lia, Z.Petrevski, D.Madarovski (M.Tsiorlas).

OAKLEIGH line-up: S.Webster, N.Tolios, F.Rosman, C.Anthopoulos, A.Kovacic, S.Panopoulos, G.Goutzioulis, J.Drossos (A.Ewin), A.Pelikan (G.Tzouramanis), X.Sulemani (R.Kumar), J.Nilo.



LEADING GOALSCORERS

2 Goals
Juan Nilo (OC)
Tony Neceski (SGC)
Nick Tsaltas (GG)

ROUND THREE FIXTURES

Fri, 18th Feb, 8:15PM

Oakleigh Cannons vs Bentleigh Greens
*Jack Edwards Reserve, Oakleigh
Mel:69-H9*

Sat, 19th Feb

Frankston Pins vs South Melbourne
*Monterey Reserve, Frankston North
Mel: 99-K8
Kick Off: 6:00PM*

Altona Magic vs Fawkner/Whittlesea
*Paisley Reserve, Altona North
Mel: 55-C5
Kick Off: 7:30PM*

Melbourne Knights vs Essendon Royals
*Knights Stadium, Sunshine North
Mel:27-A6
Kick Off: 5:00PM*

Sunday, 20th Feb

Sunshine Georgies vs Preston Lions
*Chaplin Reserve, Sunshine
Mel: 26-G12
Kick Off: 6:00PM*

Saint Albans vs Green Gully
*Churchill Reserve, St Albans Mel:14-D10
Kick Off: 5:00PM*

Mon, 7th Feb, 8.15PM

Bulleen Zebras vs Heidelberg Utd
Veneto Social Club, Bulleen Mel:32-D9

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VSF

VICTORIAN SOCCER FEDERATION

Preston Back From The Dead

By Mark Boric

A healthy crowd watched an exciting game as Preston Lions scored twice in the last five minutes to draw 2-2 at home to the Melbourne Knights. The game was delayed for twenty minutes after an injury in the reserves fixture, which allowed the spectators caught in car parking congestion to enter the ground, and when it kicked off both sets of fans were quite vocal as the Lions defended the car park end.

In the twenty fourth minute, a knightsfree kick was played to Chris Emsovski. He sent the ball from deep on the left to the far post, where Dario Matkovic headed it back centrally, where a diving header from Alex Kiratzoglu bundled it over the line to give the Knights a 1-0 lead.

Just before the break Pace had a header saved by Cagalj, leaving the score at 1-0 to the Knights at half-time.

Preston again had a penalty claim denied, this time for alleged handball, just two minutes into the second period. Two minutes later Daniel Zilic punched out a corner kick to Piorkowski, who laid the ball back for Emsovski to strike but his effort was blocked to relieve the pressure on the Lions.

End to end play ensued for the next few minutes. Kiratzoglu broke away down the left touchline before cutting the ball back into the penalty area, but there was no one on hand to provide a finishing touch. Preston took the ball back up to their end, where Neven Antic produced a goal-saving tackle on

the edge of the penalty area. The Lions maintained the pressure, Sapasovski striking a volley, albeit a soft one, at Cagalj. Just a minute later another Preston player went down in the box and again referee Mur called play on. Oskuz chipped an effort over the crossbar before the Knights broke with Kiratzoglu running onto a Caldwell flick header and blasting the ball into the side netting.

In the seventy-eighth minute a cross from Matkovic from the right side was met with a neat volley at the near post by Caldwell which put the ball beyond Zilic to give the Knights a 2-0 lead.

The Knights now looked to have the game in their keeping. Milardovic blazed a shot wide after a cross had been cleared out to him. The Lions were being troubled by the wide players of the Knights, but a purposeful run into the box by Magnacca with four minutes left saw him felled as he tried to burst between two defenders, and this time referee Mur pointed to the spot. Magnacca stepped up to take the kick himself, and coolly sent Cagalj the wrong way, tucking the ball away inside the keeper's right hand post.

It was the Knights turn to appeal for a free-kick, but the referee ruled an intercepted through ball had been chested and not handled, and the Lions broke to pressurise the Knights. With a minute remaining Magnacca found Sapasovski who scored from close range to level the game. Preston had a chance to take all the points when a header by Sapasovski from a Mancevski cross was parried but after a rebound Cagalj eventually saved.

Gully Go Top

By Adrian Ceddia

OLD rivals Green Gully and Sunshine George Cross went to battle in round two of the Vodafone Premier League on Sunday night. It was the first time the two foes had met since 1999, with many believing the Cavaliers would be too strong for their newly promoted neighbours, despite the Georgies good form in round one of the season.

In an even match at Green Gully Reserve, the home side escaped with a 2-1 victory thanks to a winner late in the first half.

Keen to assert their authority on the contest, the Cavaliers shot out of the blocks early through last week's goalscorer Nick Tsaltas in the opening five minutes.

Latching onto a headed cross from Roddy Vargas, Tsaltas calmly tucked away the goal to give his side the early ascendancy.

But the Georgies were not to be outdone, hitting back eight minutes later through Brett Gilmour, leveling the scores and replacing the hope of the visiting supporters. Sunshine was on a roll and they were unlucky not to go ahead soon after when a Trent Waterson cross was pushed by the wind into the crossbar.

To the delight of the home supporters, Green Gully scored what turned out to be the winning goal in the 42nd minute, with Roddy Vargas blasting the ball through a wall of players after a scramble on the edge of the box.

There were limited chances in the second half, with Green Gully happy to cushion their one goal advantage.

Bentleigh Bounces Back

By Pano Stavrou

Bentleigh provided on of the upsets to the round by defeating reigning champions Bulleen Zebras 2 - 1 at Kingston Heath Soccer Complex on Sunday.

Both teams started well, exerting pressure on each other, with Bentleigh Greens opening the score at 16th minute after an accurate pass from Ivo Madeira, who played an exceptional game today, into the Bulleen penalty area where Nick Veljovic "grabbed" it and with a superb execution gave Theoklitos no chance to clear it making the score 1 - 0. Bullen tried to equalise and came close when a shot of theirs hit the bar in the 39th minute.

In the second half both teams started strong again, but in an

unfortunate mix-up in the 49th minute, Diaco beat three Bentleigh Greens defenders and put the ball past Morales, who had a superb game in the Bentleigh Greens goal otherwise.

The Bentleigh Greens players didn't put their guns down, a very good sign, and started exerting even more pressure on the opposition. They were rewarded in the 66th minute when Chris Driver, who played superbly right through the game, put the ball in the net after a well executed free-kick by Marcelo Pena.

The Greens kept the pressure on and could have scored another couple of goals towards the end of the game, hitting the bar once and missing another chance from close range.

This was a very encouraging result for the Greens against opposition of the calibre of Bulleen.

Pines Double Whammied

By Costa Koutropoulos

Heidelberg United notched it's first win of the new season after defeating Frankston Pines 2-0 at Olympic Village on Sunday.

Both teams missed penalties in an exciting and even match that could have gone either way.

Pines defended well in the first half as the home side dominated most of the open play.

Veteran Heidelberg striker Angelo Goutzioulis played a good game and opened the scoring with a trademark goal just before half-time. After creating some space and losing his marker he connected with a right wing cross, hitting the target with a free header at the back post.

With the crowd urging both teams on and creating a wonderful atmosphere, the Pine's fans thought they were a chance to level terms when a penalty was awarded after Scott Webster appeared to be up-ended in the box..

Nick Waite took the kick only to see his effort superbly saved by 'keeper Lupce Acevski.

Minutes later Pine's were on the end of a double -whammy as Heidelberg broke clear through a swift and open counter attack which was finished by midfield maestro, Bill Damianos.

With moments to go it was Heidelberg's turn to receive a penalty and looked set to run away with the result. However, Frankston 'keeper Marco Gutalo saved Joe Tricarico's spot-kick and managed to keep some respectably to the scoreline.

The only downside for the 'Bergers was that Rob Liparoti was subbed after damaging his knee and now awaits the verdict on the extent of its seriousness.

Victorian State Team Announced

Goalkeepers

Michael Theoklitis (Bulleen)
Stuart Webster (Oakleigh)

Defenders

Dragi Nastevski (Green Gully)
Steve Pantelidis (Heidelberg)
Ryan Ollerton (Bulleen)
Stelios Dragos (Capt) (Bulleen)
Roddy Vargas (Green Gully)
Tony Sterjovski (Fawkner/Whittlesea)

Midfielders

Cameron Pino (Altona Magic)
Steven Pace (Preston Lions)
Billy Celeski (Bulleen)
Steve Panopoulos (Oakleigh)
Josip Kozic (Bulleen)

Forwards

John Sapazovski (Preston Lions)
Michael Curcija (Essendon)
Sash Becvinovski (Altona Magic)

Coach: Peter Ollerton

Ass Coach: Eric Hollingsworth

Team Manager: George Angelopoulos

Team Physio: John Morris

Head of Delegation: Vasko Stojcevski

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South Opens Account

By Michael Tsoukalis courtesy of www.smfc.com.au

South Melbourne scored its first victory in the 2005 Vodafone Premier League defeating the St. Albans Saints by 1 goal to nil on Sunday. .In front of 3000 supporters, a breathtaking first half strike by Kiwi striker Vaughn Coveny was enough to settle the tie.

Somewhat against the run of play, South opened the scoring. A 25-yard free kick was played square by Salapasidis to Coveny who looked to have taken a touch too many but just when the chance seemed to have been wasted, Coveny managed to unleash a stinging 13th minute angled drive from outside the box- that Saints' custodian Stjepan Gal - at full stretch - couldn't get anywhere near.

Though disappointed with going behind, St. Albans continued to create chances. South pre-season trialist Ivan Razov saw a 16th minute free-kick - from just outside the South area - parried over by the excellent Anastasiadis. The South keeper was the home side's saviour again when he parried another decent strike in the 21st minute.

The half ended with a bit of bust-up between South's Scottish winger Ryan Dinse and a St. Albans player. The situation was close to boiling over with many players running to get involved but was thankfully quickly cooled with Dinse receiving a yellow card.

South came out in the 2nd half far

more determined, as early as the 49th minute Coveny broke down the right wing, shaken off his marker yet was slowed in his tracks by a lack of support, he still managed to pick out Ryan Dinse's run on the back post but the South winger failed to connect with his attempted snapshot volley.

St. Albans' only chance in the second half was a 56th minute Dragicevic free-kick that looked headed for the top corner but thankfully for the home side just skimmed the roof of the net.

Koutsoupias had looked eager to impress and was at the heart of South's next chance. His superb interplay with Dinse saw Koutsoupias released down the right, his subsequent 66th minute delivery was whipped in low with Saints' defender Ivan Filipovic fortunate not to divert into his own net, seeing his mis-kicked interception just clear the crossbar with keeper Gal no-where in sight.

South then finished the game with a flurry and were denied two penalties which seemed clear cut. First a mazy 77th minute dribble by Salapasidis saw the South playmaker make his way into the St. Albans box, dazzling his way past the Saints' defence Salapasidis appeared to have been clearly brought down yet referee Giuseffi waved play on. Then an 88th minute through-ball by Evan Karavitis was latched onto by the speedy Koutsoupias who took a touch away from the keeper, having his legs taken out in the process. Referee Giuseffi whistled immediately though to the amazement of the home supporters, issued Koutsoupias a yellow card for apparent simulation.

STOP PRESS...STOP PRESS... Monday nights games

Essendon Royals and Altona Magic were involved in a tight contest at the Veneto Club. Even though it was a home match for the Essendon Royals, the surroundings were more akin to playing away. In a match where both teams had opportunities to score and just when it seemed the points were to be shared, Essendon's Michael Catalano popped up in the 84th minute to grab all three points for Michael Michalakopoulos' side.

In monday nights other game, Oakleigh Cannons were victorious against Fawkner/Whittlesea by a margin on two goals to nil. Steve Panopoulos and Jim Drossos got the all important goals to send Oakleigh up to second position on the Vodafone VPL ladder. A good result for Oakleigh considering they didn't play to their best and included five new faces in the line-up.

Goal! Weekly will next be out at your newsagents on Wednesday the 23rd of February.

This is due to the VPL being in recess next week for the Victorian representative match against visiting Chinese side Tianjin Teda FC

FROM THE DUGOUT...

Ken Murphy (Altona Magic): “Unavailable for comment”

Mick Kupinic (Bentleigh): “I was delighted with the performance. To the credit of our boys we knuckled down, got back to our game plan and took our half chances this week. We made a couple of positional changes, addressed a few things during the week and it worked out really well for us. We also had two one-on-one’s with the keeper and if we had taken those chances it would have given us an even greater result.”

Stan Webster (Frankston): “I knew it was going to be a hard game up at Heidelberg. I thought that at the end of the 90 minutes Heidelberg deserved to win but we had too many players off their game on the day. If we’d scored with the penalty to make it one all, we might have taken something out of the game. All credit to Heidelberg, they were really up for it and we just didn’t match them.”

Nick Atanasovski (President, Preston): “The game was played in a high spirit and I thought both teams played well. It was good to see the boys come back from two-nil down and they didn’t drop their heads. We were happy with the performance and the boys did everything that was asked of them.”

Srecko Barisic (St Albans): “We had a number of chances to get a goal but

unfortunately we let Coveny alone for one second who punished us. We tried all game to equalise but we just missed too many chances. Overall our performance was excellent. I’m more than happy with the players but obviously not with the result.”

Michael Michalakopoulos (Essendon): “Last night was a fantastic result for us. We came up against a really tough unit in Ken Murphy’s Altona Magic. Both teams had their chances but it was the sort of game where one goal would have swayed it. They had us pegged down for a good twenty minutes in the second half but our defense worked well as a unit and we managed to put one away. I’m very happy with the start we’ve had to the season.”

Michael Chatzitrifonas (Oakleigh): “I was very pleased with the outcome and getting the three points away from home at this early stage of the season. I was happy with the way our boys fought the game out especially against what I consider a top three side. Overall, it was a good team effort. There were times in the game when we were under the pump but our leaders stood up and rose to the challenge”

Chris Taylor (Sunshine): “I was quite happy with our performance and commitment right through the game. The first half was played at a frantic pace and unfortunately with us being a young side, and this is where experi-

ence comes in, we conceded a sloppy goal about five minutes into the game and then another sloppy goal about two or three minutes before the end of the half, which really killed us. Overall we matched it against a side that is probably favourite to win the title this year.”

Charles Farrugia (President, Green Gully): “The club is very happy that we got a good result and won the game in what was a local derby. It was a very hard game but nothing less was expected in a match against our rivals. In the first half Georgie matched us but I suppose our superiority and experience of being in the Premier League showed. The boys put in everything they had and in the end gave us the perfect result we wished for. ”

Peter Ollerton (Bulleen): “In some ways losing at Bentleigh might have done us a world of good. I’m trying to think positive and not get over critical but I’m hoping it may bring us back to reality. I think it’s the first time we’ve lost in over fifteen matches. Our first half was poor, but in the second half we were all over them. I’m a bit of a realist, I’ve got a small squad and I don’t believe we’re as unbeatable as everyone seems to think.”

Santo Rizza (President, Fawkner): “Unavailable for comment”

Zlatko Vego (Knights): “I’m not very happy with the result as we should

have taken the three points, but if you had asked me before the game would I have been happy with a draw, I would’ve been satisfied with that. I’m happy with the game, my boys are young, they are improving from game to game, but in soccer two nil is sometimes a difficult score to hang on to.”

John Anastasiadis (South Melb): “It was a difficult game, the boys were determined to get the result. Our goal-keeper pulled off a few good saves in the first half, after that I thought we were quite comfortable. We concentrated on our system and structure and that got us over the line.”

Phil Stubbins (Heidelberg): “It was a tall contrast from our poor performance last week. I thought the boys to a man played to their potential. I was very very pleased to get the three points against a strong and physical Frankston Pines side. Full of praise for the team and happy for the club and supporters.”

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THEN & NOW
WITH JIMMY ARMSTRONG

What year did you come to Australia?

I came to Australia in 1966. I came out here to visit my sister on a two week working/holiday and I’m still here.

Who did you play for back in the UK?

I played for two semi-amateur teams, Renfrew Juniors and Yorker Athletic FC. They were both clubs from the Glasgow area who would normally feed talented younger players to the higher leagues of Scotland.

Who did you play for in Australia?

When I came out here I played for Hakoah for three and half seasons before I joined South Melbourne Hellas for 7 seasons. They retired me the season before the NSL started in 1977, so I then went to play for Shepparton United and Morwell Falcons.

What was the highlight of your career?

There’s been a few highlights but I would have to say getting picked for Australia and scoring the 22nd goal that won me \$1,000. They’re

all highlights and I’ve enjoyed everything.

Best player you ever played with?

When I look back there was a few great players. Stevie Walker, Jimmy Mackay, Jimmy Pyrgolios were all champions

Most important goal you ever scored?

It was probably when I was playing for the “Courage” \$1000 Goal Scorers Award in 1974. I was sitting on twenty goals and a little chap called Paul Murphy was also sitting on twenty. He scored one on the Saturday to put him one in front of me and I had to score two to get the thosand dollars. I said to his mate “ask Paul if he wants to share the thousand dollars before I play”. Paul said “No”, so I went out there and played like a dummy. But, I was very lucky and scored one in the first half with the head and got the second from about forty-five metres, taking out the thousand dollars. When I came off the pitch all I had on was my pair of shorts. My socks, my boots and my jumper were taken off me by the

supporters.

Which clubs have you coached?

I coached Westvale Olympic Soccer Club. I got them out the Victorian Provisional League and into the Victorian League Division 4. We won two championships and I retired because I was on top.

What’s your involvement with soccer these days?

I’m the liason officer at South Melbourne. I make sure the referees are looked after and I make sure the away teams are looked after as well.

Advice to youngsters?

Just keep plodding along. Never give up . You make mistakes , you try and correct them, but enjoy it. That’s the most important thing, just enjoy it.

Biggest influence on career?

I’d have to say Manny Poulakakis taught me a few things, simple things, that I never thought myself.

Socceroo Honours
Total - 4 app. 2 gls.
1970 - Kowloon Bus Company (1 goal)
1972 - New Zealand, South Vietnam, South Korea (1 goal)



Above: Jimmy mobbed by fans after winning the ‘Courage Breweries’ Top Scorer Award.

2005 VODAFONE VPL SQUAD LISTS

ALTONA MAGIC

Martin John (gk)
Stiven Mrkela
Marcus Stergiopoulos
Doug Mladenovic
Kole Delev
Koce Delev
Alfonso Opazo
Sash Becvinovski
Cameron Pino
Levent Osman
Rocco Di Vitto
Pece Cergovski
Simon Storey
Jason Dimitrievski
Colin Azzopardi
Stuart Riddle
Slave Bozinovski
Igor Kolevski
Goran Lozanovski
John Cvetkovski

Coach: Ken Murphy



Mile Medjedovic
Steve Iosifidis

Coach: Michael Michalakopoulos

FAWKNER BLUES

Mark Vazzochi
Zoran Petrevski
Steve Tilovski
Frank Tramontana
Tony Sterjovski
Carl Recchia
Robert Stojcevski
Massimo Mardocca
Michael Bosevski
Ross Cardillo
Vasko Trpcevski
Danny Madarovski
Mark Tsiolas
John Angelovski
Omar Ayache
Sasa Ognenovski
Goran Petrovic
Joseph Spiteri
Kenny Gerohristodoulou



Coach: John Markovski

FRANKSTON PINES

Liam Swaine
Anthony Edgar
Ben Kasenhagen
Jason Rand
Matthew Duvand
Chris Ross
Cameron Dunne
Jamie MacMinimee
Mirza Pedic
Spiro Athanasopoulos
Dominic D'Angelo
David Bray
William Armour
Simon Webster
Scott Webster
Trent Malcolm
Leopold Cam
Elvin Craig
Trebba Leonard
Armour William
Nicholas Caleb



Coach: Stan Webster

GREEN GULLY CAVALIERS

Ante Lovcaric
Lubo Lapsansky
Ante Kelic
Dean Fak
Henry Velkovski
Brandon Vassallo
Rody Vargas
Nick Tsaltas
Josip Rajher
Drago Nastevski
Nick Lazarevski
Joel Nikolic
Andy Vargas
Michael Batinovic
Philip Riccobene
Matthew Dimech
Pasi Schwalger



Coach: Ian Dobson

HEIDELBERG UNITED

Billy Damianos
Joe Tricarico
Yusef Yusef
Peter Roberts
Lupce Acevski
Isiyan Erdogan
Veton Korcarevski
Con Boutsianis
Robert Liaroti
George Tioulis
Adem Kose



Tom Karapatsos
Angelo Goutzioulis
Steve Pantelidis
Eric Vassiliadis
Evan Papadopoulos
Kamer Simsek
Tony Ouliaris

Coach: Phil Stubbins

MELBOURNE KNIGHTS

Hrvoje Matkovic
Ivan Klarica
Nathan Caldwell
Tomi Razov
Neven Antic
Alex Kiratzoglou
Andrew Barisic
Tommy Milardovic
Ivan Gelemanovic
Davor Filipovic
Daniel Rocco
Daniel Dopuljic
Albert Gjuni
Adrian Cagalj
Tony Saric
Dario Matkovic
Chris Emovski
Daniel Piorkowski



Coach: Zlatko Vego

OAKLEIGH CANNONS

David Bingham
Philip Constantinou
Jamie Vasiliou
James Tournas
Chris Theodoridis
Dejan Radojicic
Willie Stolke
Billy Poulis
Kieron Kennedy
Rai Kumar
Stefanos Papadopoulos
Nick Tolios
Paul Banis
Xhezzir Sulemani
Nicholas Marinos
Vasilios Daglis
Jammy Latinopoulos
Juan Nilo
Sam Poutakidis
Sasha Pejkoic
Felix Rosman
Con Deftereos
Nicholas Karamboukas
Adam Edwin
Stavros Boutos
Leonidas Karipidis
George Tzouramanis
George Abatzidis
Con Anthopoulos
Yunal Kumar
Jim Drossos
John Pappas
Antun Kovacic
George Goutzioulis
Stuart Webster
Kosta Olabuntu
Hamish Swami



Coach: Michael Chatzitirfonas

PRESTON LIONS

Steven Pace
Youha Zia
Anthony Magnacca
Haris Vrbovac
Serkan Oksuz
Robert Dolevski
Pece Siveski
John Sapazovski
Steven Manceski



Les Anastasiou
Peco Dimovski
Tony Groznovski
Michael Miskas
Radmir Sekulovski
Daniel Zilic
Jone Dimoski
Anthony Jankovski
Johny Cvetanovski
Mario Roza

Coach: Zoran Trajevski

SOUTH MELBOURNE

Jesse Krncevic
Stuart McNicol
Dean Anastasiadis
Ryan Dirse
Stavros Georgakakis
Sammy De Vito
Steven O'Dor
gianni de Nittis
James Stefanou
Evan Karavitis
Bill Natsioulas
Tex Apostolikas
Con Blatsis
Kosta Salapasidis
Vaughan Coveney
Con Dimitropoulos
Nick Curtis
Peter Koutsoupas
Arthur Tsonis
Arthur Tsirtsakis



Coach: John Anastasiadis

ST ALBANS SAINTS

Paul Bossio
Marijan Vunderl
Joseph Suric
Ivan Razov
Martin Raspudic
Richard Pete
Mark Paleka
Ivan Miol
Nikola Gazic
Stjepan Gal
Ivan Filipovic
Ilija Dragicevic
Max Cuze
Vinko Bulubasic



Coach: Srecko Barisic

SUNSHINE GEORGIES

Fredy Pedrotti
Paul Galea
Ben Stafrace
Eduardo Soares
Emmanuel Muscat
Derek Galea
Peter Spiteri
Tony Naceski
Tony Antiniadis
Dusko Delic
Matthew Pace
Marinos Gasparis
Steven Camilleri
Robert Brian
Damir Salcin
Brett Gilmore
Zoran Pajic
Jasmin Sehic
Chris Greechan
Trent Waterson
Ashley Lymm



Coach: Chris Taylor

BENTLEIGH GREENS

John Kotsopoulos
Stath Kourkoutzelos
Chris Driver
Fred Au
Manny Karas
Evan Papadopoulos
Jonathon Astorino
Andrew Mavros
Vince Bontemps
Theo Constantinou
Maiden Kustura
Ivo Madeira
Nick Veljovic
Cesar Leyton
Paul Theoharous
Yanni Galanos
Marcelo Pena



Coach: Mike Kupinic

BULLEEN ZEBRAS

Mike Theoklitos (gk)
Chris Aldunate
Dean Tanaglia
Stelios Drakos
Ross Antoniadis
Michael Mazzini
Josip Kozic
Dennis Vucini
Ricky Diaco
Peter Kakos
Ari Drakos
Damian Guglielmi
Billy Celeski
Zdravko Atanasovski
Ryan Ollerton
Steve Martin
Costa Tsioukis
Josh Del Rio
Bojo Jevdjovic
Nikola Ragonovic



Coach: Peter Ollerton

ESSENDON ROYALS

Ben Harbinson
Tom Chillico
Len Catalano
Mark Silic
Josip Loncaric
Jonathon Coyne
Nathan Thomas
Serdar Pir
Cameron Miles
Ricky Chillico
Michael Catalano
Ricky Catalano
Tony Catalano
Frank Catalano
Michael Curcija



FRANKSTON



GOAL! WE

Back row, left to right: Darryl Kennedy (Team Manager), Derek Bailey (Ph
Matthew Duvand, Anthony Edgar, Simon Webster, S
Front row, left to right: Sedar Sivic, Trent Malcolm, Boris Ovcin, Jami
C

N PINES SC



E K L Y 2005

ysio), Mirza Pedic, Jamie McMinimee, Nick Waite, William Armour, Marko Sutalo,
Stan Webster (Head Coach), Ian Hardy (Assistant Coach)
e Cumming, Shane Tagliaferro, Scott Webster, Cam Leopold, Leonardo Trebbia,
raig Elvin



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THIS WEEKS GAMES:

*LIONS v KNIGHTS
BLUES v CANNONS*

Kennedy Wanders To Waverley

Waverley Wanderers Soccer Club are gearing themselves for another successful year in 2005 following their promotion to State League Division 3, with the appointment of new seniors coach John Kennedy. Kennedy, a former player with South Melbourne and Heidelberg United in the seventies, has a long successful coaching career at both senior and junior levels. His impressive coaching record includes championships with Oakleigh City, Springvale White Eagles and Ringwood City. Kennedy also held the youth coach and coordinator position at South Melbourne for three years where he nurtured such talented youngsters as Patrick Knisboro who recently signed with Leicester City.

Kennedy paid tribute to outgoing Waverley Wanderers coach, Arthur Kourtis, who he says "did a great job in coaching the seniors to the Provisional League Division 1 title last year. Unfortunately he is going overseas for 12 weeks this season and I was approached to step in and help out, so here I am".

Club president, George Katsamboukas, is determined that the senior team "is not just there to make up the numbers in State League division 3, but continue to build on the momentum of the championship winning 2004 team".

Coach Kennedy is looking to build on the current senior and reserve squads. He says; the problem with

success is that you tend to think, Oh well, I did it last year. I'll do it this year too. But if you get some new faces in it makes you try just a little bit harder. Kennedy says of his assistant, reserves coach Steve Lazos; Steve coached the Oakleigh reserves last year. He's got a great persona and develops good relations with players and that's what I'm after. People who can be honest and people who you can look up to. President Katsamboukas believes the development of young talent is an important goal in achieving long term success at the club. He believes young players will be given ample opportunity to experience senior football by playing and training under quality coaches.

Waverley Wanderers has four men's teams including Seniors, Reserves, Thirds and Veterans levels. There are two women's teams, six junior teams and a Goalkick program for 4-7 years olds.

The club has their training and playing facilities at Carlson Reserve, Clayton Road Clayton. The grounds have excellent flood lighting, clubrooms and social rooms.

Large crowds with a friendly atmosphere can be found on Saturdays for the seniors' home matches.

New players for any of the teams are welcome. Pre season training for the seniors and reserves has begun.

Those interested can contact George Katsamboukas on 0407 529 689

Further information on the club can be found at WaverleyAek.com.au

BOO'S WORLD

*The World of Football
According to Mark Boric*



What goes on tour stays on tour. Sadly this applies to pre-season training camps at Phillip Island, such as the one enjoyed by a group from the club I am involved with, Richmond, last weekend. So do blame me for the poor standard of this week's column, I am being held back by a stupid code of honour.

Well it was a great start to the season, with crowds up everywhere. Some of them must be travelling Tasmanians, as I'm hearing they may have lead to exaggerated head counts in some cases. Maybe the VSF should accept a Tasmanian side into the VPL, the road/ferry trips would give everyone a chance to check out a map of Tassie.

Just a week into the season and the form book is being turned on its head. Bentleigh Greens, beaten easily by unfancied Frankston Pines (who would go on to lose to Heidelberg last week) in week one, defeated defending champions Bulleen Zebras in the second round. Were Bulleen lucky last season? Was it a fluke? Are Frankston still better than most thought, but not as good as Heidelberg, who drew with South Melbourne? How good is a draw against South Melbourne when the next week they only defeated new relegation favourites St.Albans 1-0, after the Saints had been convincingly seen off by Sunshine Georgies in week one. The same Sunshine Georgies who lost to Green Gully last week? And what's with the bloke digging up the swimming pool in Desperate Housewives? All to be revealed in the upcoming weeks of VPL

action (except for the guy digging up the pool, I think you can find spoilers on the internet for that already).

The first round of the Mayor's Cup will pit the Victorian state team v Chinese club Tianjin Teda at Bob Jane Stadium on February 13. I wonder which side Lord Mayor John So will be supporting?

Amongst the many banners on display at the Preston-Knights clash was one from the home fans with the message "Welkom To Hell". Now while Reservoir is no Toorak, it is hardly the worst place in the world. Maybe for the benefit of any VSF inspectors at the game, they should make up an "&" and an "O" which could be velcroed on and over the banner so it could be changed from "Welkom To Hell" to the far more genteel "Welkom & Hello" at a moment's notice.

There were a few Knights fans at the game too, releasing the odd atmospheric flare and chanting. Must have had plenty to drink too, judging by their impromptu rendition of the Sheena Easton "classic" Morning Train. As Rove McManus would say "what the?" I don't think we could print what I'd say to Rove McManus, but that is probably getting a bit off the track now.

By the way, the "what happens on tour stays on tour" stuff only applies in the first person. If it is a tour I had nothing to do with I would have no problem in publishing any details I may receive at my e-mail address of mark.boric@bigpond.com

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AUSSIIES ABROAD

ENGLISH PREMIERSHIP

Date: 06-02-05

" Qantas Socceroo Tim Cahill played a full game, as Everton lost 1-0 at home against Charlton.

Date: 05-02-05

" Qantas Socceroo Mark Schwarzer (gk) played a full game, while Mark Viduka (hamstring) was not in the squad, as Middlesbrough won 1-0 at home against Blackburn Rovers. For Blackburn, Qantas Soccerooos Brett Emerton and Lucas Neill both played full games.

" Qantas Socceroo Harry Kewell (groin) was not in the squad, as Liverpool won 3-1 at home against Fulham.

" Hayden Foxe (foot) was not in the squad, as Portsmouth lost 3-1 away at Tottenham Hotspur.

" Qantas Socceroo Stan Lazaridis (thigh) was not in the squad, as Birmingham City lost 2-0 away at Manchester United.

" Qantas Socceroo Tony Popovic was not in the squad, as Crystal Palace lost 1-0 at home against Bolton Wanderers.

Date: 02-02-05

" Qantas Socceroo Tim Cahill played a full game, as Everton won 1-0 at home against Norwich.

" Qantas Socceroo Stan Lazaridis (thigh) was not in the squad, as Birmingham City won 2-1 at home against Southampton.

" Qantas Soccerooos Brett Emerton and Lucas Neill both played full games, as Blackburn Rovers lost 1-0 away at Chelsea.

Date: 01-02-05

" Hayden Foxe (foot) was not in the squad, as Portsmouth won 2-1 at home against Middlesbrough. For Middlesbrough, Qantas Socceroo Mark Schwarzer (gk) played a full game, while Mark Viduka (hamstring) was not in the squad.

" Qantas Socceroo Harry Kewell (groin) was not in the squad, as Liverpool won 2-1 away at Charlton.

" Qantas Socceroo Tony Popovic was not in the squad, as Crystal Palace drew 2-2 away at West Brom.

COCA-COLA CHAMPIONSHIP

Date: 06-02-05

" Qantas Young Socceroo Trent McClenahan remained on the bench, as West Ham won 1-0 at home against Cardiff City. For Cardiff, Qantas Socceroo Tony Vidmar came on in the 77th minute,

Date: 05-02-05

" John Filan (gk) played a full game, as Wigan Athletic lost 1-0 at home against Stoke.

" Qantas Socceroo Kevin Muscat was replaced in the 73rd minute, as Millwall drew 0-0 at home with QPR.

" Qantas Socceroo Danny Tiatto played a full game, as Leicester City drew 1-1 at home with Crewe.

" Paul Reid was replaced in the 59th minute, as Brighton & Hove Albion lost 3-2 at home against Derby County.

" Ryan Townsend was not in the Burnley squad that lost 1-0 at home against Leeds United.

COCA-COLA LEAGUE ONE

Date: 05-02-05

" Paul Henderson (gk) played a full game, as Bradford City drew 1-1 at home with Tranmere.

" Aaron Downes was not in the squad, as Chesterfield lost 1-0 at home against Hartlepool. For Hartlepool, Joel Porter was replaced in the 73rd minute.

" Danny Allsopp came on in the 62nd minute, as Hull City drew 1-1 at home with Bristol City. For Bristol, Qantas Socceroo Luke Wilkshire remained on the bench.

" Richard Garcia (groin & hip) was not in the squad, as Colcehster lost 1-0 at

hom,e against Blackpool. For Blackpool, Brad Jones (gk) played a full game.

" Chris Coyne (suspension) was not in the Luton Town squad that drew 1-1 away at Huddersfield.

" Jamie McMaster played a full game, as Peterborough won 2-1 at home against Stockport County. For Stockport, Mark Robertson came on in the 74th minute.

" Jacob Burns played a full game, as Barnsley drew 0-0 at home with Sheffield Wednesday.

" Les Pogliacomì (gk) played a full game, as Oldham Athletic lost 2-1 at home against Swindon Town.

" Gareth Edds (ankle) was not in the squad, while Nick Rizzo was replaced in the 79th minute, as Milton Keynes Dons lost 1-0 away at Brentford.

Date: 01-02-05

" Aaron Downes was not in the squad, as Chesterfield drew 1-1 at home against Hull City. For Hull, Daniel Allsopp remained on the bench.

" Mark Robertson remained on the bench, as Stockport County drew 2-2 at home with Bournemouth.

COCA-COLA LEAGUE TWO

Date: 05-02-05

" Frank Talia (gk) played a full game, as Wycombe Wanderers lost 2-1 at home against Boston United.

" Scott Guyett played a full game, while Adrian Caceres came on in the 46th minute, as Yeovil lost 3-1 away at Macclesfield.

" Adrian Webster (hamstring) was not in the Darlington squad that won 1-0 away at Bury.

Date: 04-02-05

" Predrag Bojic played a full game, as Northampton drew 2-2 at home against Cambridge United.

SCOTTISH FA CUP

Third Round

Date: 05-02-05

" Qantas Socceroo Patrick Kisnorbo (knee) was not in the squad, as Hearts drew 2-2 at home with Kilmarnock. For Kilmarnock, Danny Invincibile was replaced in the 62nd minute.

SCOTTISH CIS INSURANCE CUP

Semi Final

Date: 01-02-05

" Scott McDonald was replaced in the 60th minute, as Motherwell won 3-2 aet at home against Hearts. For Hearts, Qantas Socceroo Patrick Kisnorbo (knee) was not in the squad

BELGIUM JULIPER LEAGUE

Date: 06-02-05

" Andrew Vlahos played a full game, as Cercle Brugge drew 0-0 at home with Westerlo. For Westerlo, Qantas Socceroo Alex Brosque did not play.

" Qantas Socceroo Stephen Laybutt played a full game, as AA Gent drew 0-0 at home with Anderlecht.

Date: 05-02-05

" Michael Turnbull (gk) remained on the bench, as Standard Liege won 1-0 away at Brussels.

" Qantas Socceroo Archie Thompson played a full game, as Lierse lost 2-0 at home against Club Brugge.

" Qantas Socceroo Paul Okon and Adam Griffiths both played full games, while Brendan Santalab and Steven Bozinovski did not play, as Oostende won 1-0 at home against Bergen.

DUTCH EREDIVISIE

Date: 06-02-05

" Jason Culina played a full game, as Twente Enschede won 2-1 away at Ajax Amsterdam.

Date: 05-02-05

" Jamie Coyne was not in the squad, as ADO Den Haag won 2-0 at home against FC Den Bosch.

Date: 04-02-05

" Peter Zois (gk) remained on the bench, as Willem II Tilburg won 3-1 at home against NEC Nijmegen.

GERMAN BUNDESLIGA

Date: 06-02-05

" Qantas Socceroo Craig Moore played a full game and received a yellow card, as Borussia Monchengladbach, won 3-2 at home against SC Freiburg.

Date: 05-02-05

" Frank Juric (gk) remained on the bench, as Hannover 96 lost 3-1 at home against Borussia Dortmund.

" Christoph Teinert came on in the 84th minute, FSV Mainz 05 lost 3-0 at home against Hertha Berlin.

GERMAN BUNDESLIGA 2

Date: 06-02-05

" Qantas Socceroo Paul Agostino played a full game, as 1860 Munich drew 2-2 away at SV Eintracht Trier.

" Sasa Radulovic did not play, as LR Ahlen lost 2-1 away at SpVgg Unterhaching.

Date: 04-02-05

" Peter Buljan did not play, as FC Saarbrucken drew 1-1 away at FC Energie Cottbus.

GREEK DIVISION ONE

Date: 05-02-05

" Travis Dodd did not play, as Panionios lost 2-0 at home against Olympiakos.

ITALIAN SERIE A

Date: 06-02-05

" Qantas Soccerooos Marco Bresciano and Vince Grella both played full games, as Parma drew 2-2 at home with Inter Milan.

Date: 03-02-05

" Qantas Socceroo Marco Bresciano was not in the squad, while Qantas Socceroo Vince Grella was replaced in the 75th minute, as Parma lost 3-1 away at Bologna.

ITALIAN SERIE B

Date: 06-02-05

" Qantas Socceroo Zeljko Kalac (gk) played a full game, as Perugia drew 1-1 at home with Catania.

" Jess Vanstrattan (gk) remained on the bench, as Verona lost 2-1 away at Arezzo.

" Qantas Socceroo Max Vieri remained on the bench, as Ternana drew 3-3 away at Venezia.

MALTESE PREMIER LEAGUE

Date: 04-02-05

" Michael Xuereb (gk) remained on the bench, as Hibernians FC won 2-1 at home against Valletta.

SPANISH KINGS CUP (COPA DEL RAY)

Quarter Finals - 2nd Leg

Date: 02-02-05

" Qantas Socceroo John Aloisi was replaced in the 54th minute, as Osasuna won 3-1 at home against Betis Sevilla. Osasuna won the tie 4-3 on aggregate and move into the semi finals.

SPANISH LA LIGA

Date: 06-02-05

" Qantas Socceroo John Aloisi came on in the 86th minute, as Osasuna lost 3-1 away at Betis Sevilla

SPANISH SEGUNDA DIVISION

Date: 06-02-05

" Jose Bello Amigo (gk) played a full game, as Racing Ferrol won 6-1 away at Almeria.

TURKISH SUPER LEAGUE

Date: 06-02-05

" Michael Petkovic (gk) played a full game, as Trabzonspor won 1-0 away at Sebatspor.

" Qantas Socceroo Josip Skoko was replaced at half time, as Genclerbirligi drew 1-1 away at Besiktas.

Date: 05-02-05

" Jason Petkovic (gk) played a full game, as Konyaspor drew 1-1 away at Rizespor.

MALAYSIAN SUPER LEAGUE

Date: 05-02-05

" Ante Juric did not play, as Pahang lost 3-2 away at Penang.

TRANSFERS ... TRIALS ... TIDBITS

" Former Brisbane Strikers player/coach Stuart McLaren has signed for Sarawak, who are coached by former Qantas Socceroo David Mitchell. Western Australian Branimir Mikulic has also signed for Sarawak.

" Wollongong Wolves player Shane McGirr has joined the exodus to Malaysia and signed with Premier League team Johor. McGirr is joined at Johor by Bankstown City Lions defender Richad Luksic and Rockdale City Suns midfielder David Harding.

" Coming back the other way is Michael Santalab, who has signed for South Coast United in the Illawarra competition.

" Iain Fyfe has been released by Hamilton Academical in Scotland.

" Central Coast United (NSW Premier League) midfielder Thomas Quilty has signed for Scottish Division One side Raith Rovers.

" Stuart Lovell has been released by Livingston and has signed for Queen of South in the Scottish Division One.

" Anthony Pelikan has ended his Croatian odyssey and returned to Australia to play for Oakleigh Cannons in Victorian Premier League.

" Anthony Maslic has moved the other way and signed for Sibenik in the Croatian Second Division. Also heading to Croatia is Western Australian Josip Magdic, who has transferred to NK Slavonsija.

" Young Victorian player Lukas Toman has been cleared to top Czech Republic team AC Sparta Prague.

TOP AUSSIE GOALSCORERS AROUND THE GLOBE

1. Jason CULINA FC Twente Enschede (Netherlands) 11
2. Daniel McBREEN Falkirk (Scotland) 9
3. Joel PORTER Hartlepool (England) 9
4. Scott McDONALD Motherwell (Scotland)8
5. Luke WILKSHIRE Bristol City (England)8
6. Danny INVINCIBILE Kilmarnock (Scotland) 8
7. Archie THOMPSON Lierse (Belgium) 8
8. Mark VIDUKA Middlesbrough (England) 7
9. Richard GARCIA Colchester (England) 6
10. Joshua KENNEDY Dynamo Dresden (Germany) 6
11. Danny ALLSOPP Hull City (England) 5
12. Tim CAHILL Everton (England) 5
13. Adrian CACERES Yeovil Town (England) 4
14. Scott CHIPPERFIELD FC Basel (Switzerland) 4
15. Brett EMERTON Blackburn Rovers (England) 4
16. Scott TUNBRIDGE Hamilton Academicals (Scotland) 4
17. Paul AGOSTINO 1860 Munich (Germany) 3
18. Jon BRADY Stevenage Borough (England) 3
19. Chris COYNE Luton Town (England) 3
20. Brett HOLMAN Excelsior (Netherlands) 3

Compiled by Steve Cooper of the FFA.

SPAIN: Real Madrid easily defeated Espanyol at Santiago Bernabeu stadium, while third-placed Valencia were held to a 3-3 draw at Real Sociedad.

Los Galacticos took the lead against the team from Barcelona in the 13th minute through Zinedine Zidane, and striker Raul doubled the score on the half hour mark. With fifteen minutes left to go, he scored Madrid's third and new signing Gravesen proved his worth, netting for 4-0 in the 84th minute.

In San Sebastian, Valencia opened the score through Marco Di Vaio on the 9th minute but Nihat levelled in the 45th. The most hectic part of the match came in the last ten minutes. In the 80th, Aranburu put Sociedad ahead, but Baraja equalised two minutes later.

In the 88th minute, Valencia even went back in the lead when Xisco scored his side's third goal, but Nihat eventually levelled for 3-3 in stoppage time.

Real Madrid star **Zinedine Zidane** plans to end his playing career in the summer of 2007, when his contract at the Spanish giants expires.

FRANCE: League leaders Lyon easily defeated Toulouse while second-placed Lille were held to a goalless draw by Sochaux. Marseille added to Lille's pressure by beating Rennes at home.

Olympique Lyon were never troubled by Toulouse at home. In the very first minute, Juninho opened the score and Malouda doubled the lead just before the interval. In the 53rd minute, Juninho got a second and another three minutes later it was Bergougnoux to set the score to 4-0.

ENGLAND: Manchester United needed until the second half to open the score, but eventually defeated Birmingham City while Arsenal decided their clash with Aston Villa in the first 28 minutes. On Sir Alex Ferguson's 6,666th day as manager of Manchester United the Scotsman saw how Wayne Rooney was close to opening the score in the first half against Birmingham City, but his header was only just deflected by the goalkeeper and hit the post. In the 55th minute, Roy Keane finally broke the deadlock and got his 50th goal for the Red Devils, and Rooney scored in the 78th, taking advantage of bad defending to lob the ball over the goalie's head.

The difference between Aston Villa and Arsenal was made in the first half hour. Goals from Ljungberg, Thierry Henry and Ashley Cole left the Birmingham based side without a chance, and Angel's goal in the 79th minute (1-3) was too little, too late.

Liverpool were too strong for Fulham at Anfield Road. Fernando Morientes opened the score for the Reds after nine minutes, but Cole levelled for the Londoners in the 16th. In the second half, Finnish player Hyypia restored the home side's lead and Milan Baros set the final score to 3-1 in the 79th minute.

Meanwhile, Harry Kewell has suffered another setback with the Liverpool wing-wizard breaking down on the comeback trail from a groin injury. The Australian had hoped to make his long awaited return off the bench in Saturday's premiership match at home to Fulham but he has been stopped in his tracks by a bout achilles tendinitis.

GERMANY: Bayern Munich defeated Bayer Leverkusen in this week's top clash, while Schalke

04 dropped valuable points at lowly Hansa Rostock. Borussia Dortmund seem to have found their way up, winning away to Hannover.

Bundesliga leaders Bayern Munich were too strong for Bayer Leverkusen at the Olympic stadium in the Bavarian capital. The hosts went ahead just before half time when Roy Makaay converted a penalty, and Guerrero took advantage of a small slip-up from goalkeeper Butt for 2-0 in the 67th minute.

ITALY: AC Milan were inspired by Shevchenko and Crespo to beat Lazio Roma in a thrilling final phase. Meanwhile, Internazionale added another draw to their account.

In this matchround's top clash between AC Milan and Lazio, the Rossoneri saved their three points in the very last minute. Jaap Stam had caused a penalty in the 56th minute, after which Oddo made no mistake to put Lazio ahead, but Ukranian striker Andriy Shevchenko delivered a perfect free kick to level in the 72nd.

Stoppage time was almost over when the Brazilian Kaká hit the left post with a shot from the edge of the penalty area, but former Lazio player Hernán Crespo stood in the right place and scored from the rebound, via the right post.

Udinese maintained their third position in the Serie A, beating Brescia 0-1. The team from Udine did need until the 84th minute to break the deadlock with a goal from Laquinta.

Internazionale recorded their fifteenth draw of

the season at Parma. The Nerazzurri had a man expelled in the 35th minute, when Materazzi was red-carded, and the following penalty was converted by Simplicio. On the hour mark, Gilardino got Parma a second but Cordoba and Vieri (penalty) managed to save a point.

In the capital, AS Roma drew 1-1 with Bologna. The hosts opened the score through Montella in the 9th minute, but Rocca levelled for the visiting side in the 62nd.

BELGIUM: Club Brugge are closing in on a league victory, as the difference with main competitors Anderlecht, who were held to a goalless draw at AA Gent, grows to ten points.

At SK Lierse, Jupiler League leaders Club Brugge opened the score through Ceh when 26 minutes had been played on Saturday. With nine minutes left to go, Oliveira got the visitors a second goal for the final score of 0-2.

Third-placed Racing Genk had a 1-0 win over La Louviere, with a goal from Mikulic in the 63rd minute, while Standard Liege reached the same result, 0-1, at FC Brussels. The only goal was scored by Bangoura in the 62nd minute. Standard lost a player with five minutes left on the clock, at Rapaic was shown a second yellow card.

Meanwhile, Excelsior Mouscron and Lokeren held each other to a 1-1 draw. The visiting side were put in the lead by Doba after fifteen minutes, but Zewlakow levelled in the 36th minute to save a point for the hosts.

FOOTBALL QUIZ

1. What are the colours of Sandringham City?
2. What is Green Gully's nickname?
3. How many times did Preston Lions win the NSL Cup?
4. Before moving to Bob Jane Stadium where did Sth Melbourne's play its home games?
5. Which club now fielding only Womens and Juniors sides has the distinction of being Victoria's oldest soccer club?
6. Name the controversial German coach who was in charge of the Socceroos for its failed 1982 World Cup campaign?
7. Can a player be offside if he or she receives the ball direct from a throw-in?
8. What is the new VPL Crowd Record?
9. Who is the coach of Frankston Pines?
10. Which country hosted Euro 2004?

Answers on page 14

ON THE BOX THIS WEEK

CHANNEL 31

The VSF Soccer Show, Wednesday 9pm

SBS

LIVE South Africa v Socceroos, Thursday 5.15am

FOX SPORTS 1

LIVE Southampton v Everton, Monday 1.00am

LIVE Chelsea v Man City, Monday 3.00am

FOX SPORTS 2

LIVE Chelsea v Everton, Saturday 11.55pm

LIVE Fulham v Newcastle Utd, Sunday 1.55am

LIVE Bolton v Middlesborough, Sunday 4.10am

ESPN

LIVE England v Netherlands, Thursday 6.30am

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WORLD FOOTBALL

English Premier League

Fulham - Aston Villa 1 - 1							
Everton - Norwich 1 - 0							
Blackburn - Chelsea 0 - 1							
Birmingham - Southampton 2 - 1							
Tottenham - Portsmouth 3 - 1							
Norwich - West Bromwich 3 - 2							
Newcastle - Charlton 1 - 1							
Middlesbrough - Blackburn 1 - 0							
Manchester U - Birmingham 2 - 0							
Liverpool - Fulham 3 - 1							
Crystal Palace - Bolton 0 - 1							
Aston Villa - Arsenal 1 - 3							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Chelsea	25	20	4	1	49	- 8	64
2. Manchester U	26	16	8	2	43	- 16	56
3. Arsenal	26	16	6	4	58	- 30	54
4. Everton	25	14	5	6	29	- 25	47
5. Liverpool	26	13	4	9	41	- 27	43
6. Middlesbrough	26	11	7	8	41	- 35	40
7. Bolton	26	11	6	9	35	- 32	39
8. Charlton	26	11	5	10	30	- 36	38
9. Tottenham	26	10	6	10	33	- 30	36
10. Manchester C	25	8	8	9	31	- 27	32
11. Aston Villa	26	8	8	10	29	- 33	32
12. Newcastle	26	7	10	9	37	- 43	31
13. Portsmouth	26	8	6	12	29	- 38	30
14. Birmingham	26	7	8	11	29	- 33	29
15. Fulham	26	8	5	13	33	- 44	29
16. Blackburn	26	5	10	11	21	- 36	25
17. Crystal Palace	26	5	7	14	29	- 40	22
18. Norwich	26	3	11	12	26	- 49	20
19. Southampton	25	3	9	13	26	- 41	18
20. West Bromwich	26	2	11	13	23	- 49	17
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Ipswich	31	18	8	5	58	- 37	62
2. Wigan	31	16	9	6	53	- 23	57
3. Sunderland	31	17	6	8	44	- 27	57
4. Reading	31	14	9	8	37	- 27	51
5. Derby	32	15	6	11	46	- 40	51
6. Preston	31	14	7	10	44	- 42	49
7. Sheffield U	31	13	9	9	39	- 39	48
8. Millwall	31	13	7	11	35	- 29	46
9. West Ham	30	13	6	11	40	- 39	45
10. Leeds	33	11	11	11	37	- 35	44
11. Queens PR	31	13	5	13	39	- 42	44
12. Crewe	30	11	8	11	51	- 51	41
13. Stoke	31	11	8	12	19	- 22	41
14. Watford	31	9	13	9	38	- 34	40
15. Leicester	30	9	13	8	32	- 28	40
16. Burnley	29	10	10	9	23	- 24	40
17. Wolverhampton	31	9	12	10	43	- 42	39
18. Brighton	32	10	8	14	27	- 40	38
19. Cardiff	30	8	10	12	33	- 35	34
20. Plymouth	31	9	7	15	33	- 42	34
21. Coventry	31	8	8	15	39	- 52	32
22. Gillingham	31	8	5	18	28	- 51	29
23. Nottingham	31	5	11	15	28	- 45	26
24. Rotherham	31	3	12	16	23	- 43	21
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Lyon	25	14	10	1	35	- 12	52
2. Lille	25	12	9	4	30	- 16	45
3. Marseille	25	13	5	7	33	- 23	44
4. Monaco	24	11	10	3	34	- 20	43
5. Auxerre	25	12	6	7	36	- 26	42
6. Sochaux	25	9	8	8	30	- 23	35
7. Toulouse	25	9	8	8	26	- 26	35
8. Bordeaux	25	6	14	5	26	- 22	32
9. Rennes	25	9	5	11	26	- 30	32
10. Saint Etienne	24	6	13	5	29	- 22	31
11. Paris SG	24	6	12	6	25	- 26	30
12. Metz	25	7	9	9	22	- 31	30
13. Nice	25	6	11	8	29	- 34	29
14. Lens	24	6	10	8	23	- 25	28
15. Nantes	25	6	9	10	20	- 24	27
16. Strasbourg	24	5	9	10	26	- 31	24
17. Caen	25	5	9	11	18	- 42	24
18. Ajaccio	24	4	11	9	18	- 26	23
19. Bastia	25	5	8	12	18	- 31	23
20. Istres	25	2	12	11	14	- 28	18

German Bundesliga

Stuttgart - Kaiserslautern 1 - 1								
Hannover 96 - Dortmund 1 - 3								
Bochum - Arminia Bielefeld 1 - 1								
Mainz 05 - Hertha BSC 0 - 3								
Bayern Munchen - Leverkusen 2 - 0								
Nurnberg - Hamburger SV 1 - 3								
Hansa Rostock - Schalke 04 2 - 2								
		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1.	Bayern Munchen	20	12	5	3	38	- 20	41
2.	Schalke 04	20	12	2	6	30	- 26	38
3.	Stuttgart	20	10	5	5	38	- 26	35
4.	Hertha BSC	20	8	9	3	33	- 17	33
5.	Leverkusen	20	9	5	6	35	- 27	32
6.	Werder Bremen	19	9	4	6	40	- 23	31
7.	Hamburger SV	20	10	1	9	35	- 30	31
8.	Hannover 96	20	9	4	7	26	- 22	31
9.	Wolfsburg	19	10	0	9	33	- 29	30
10.	Kaiserslautern	20	8	4	8	28	- 28	28
11.	Dortmund	20	6	7	7	23	- 25	25
12.	Arminia Bielefeld	20	7	4	9	20	- 26	25
13.	Nurnberg	20	6	6	8	34	- 34	24
14.	Mainz 05	20	6	4	10	27	- 35	22
15.	Monchengladb	19	5	6	8	22	- 31	21
16.	Bochum	20	3	7	10	26	- 42	16
17.	Freiburg	19	3	6	10	15	- 38	15
18.	Hansa Rostock	20	2	7	11	17	- 41	13
Albania Championship								
Dinamo Tirana - Elbasani 0 - 0								
Vllaznia - Tirana 0 - 2								
Teuta - Shkumbini 1 - 0								
Lushnja - Laci 5 - 0								
Egnatia - Partizani 0 - 0								
		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1.	Tirana	22	18	2	2	51	- 16	56
2.	Elbasani	22	14	5	3	37	- 16	47
3.	Vllaznia	22	13	0	9	50	- 26	39
4.	Dinamo Tirana	22	10	5	7	29	- 19	35
5.	Lushnja	22	9	5	8	24	- 26	32
6.	Shkumbini	22	9	3	10	31	- 28	30
7.	Partizani	22	8	5	9	33	- 31	29
8.	Teuta	22	9	1	12	22	- 31	28
9.	Egnatia	22	5	3	14	14	- 27	18
10.	Laci	22	0	1	21	7	- 78	1
Belgium Jupiler League								
Beveren - Sint-Truiden 3 - 1								
Excelsior M - Lokeren 1 - 1								
FC Brussels - Standard 0 - 1								
Lierse SK - Club Brugge 0 - 2								
Oostende - Mons-Bergen 1 - 0								
Racing Genk - La Louviere 1 - 0								
		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1.	Club Brugge	21	18	2	1	58	- 13	56
2.	Anderlecht	19	14	2	3	44	- 20	44
3.	Racing Genk	21	12	6	3	32	- 20	42
4.	Standard	21	12	4	5	37	- 21	40
5.	Charleroi	20	10	5	5	27	- 21	35
6.	La Louviere	21	10	4	7	31	- 20	34
7.	AA Gent	20	9	3	8	26	- 25	30
8.	Lokeren	21	8	6	7	26	- 26	30
9.	Westerlo	20	9	2	9	21	- 31	29
10.	Lierse SK	21	8	4	9	37	- 36	28
11.	Beveren	21	7	4	10	29	- 35	25
12.	G.B.A.	20	6	5	9	19	- 18	23
13.	Excelsior M	21	6	4	11	29	- 30	22
14.	Cercle	20	6	3	11	28	- 53	21
15.	Sint-Truiden	21	5	5	11	24	- 38	20
16.	Mons-Bergen	20	4	3	13	23	- 36	15
17.	FC Brussels	21	4	2	15	18	- 41	14
18.	Oostende	21	2	6	13	19	- 44	12
Dutch Eredivisie								
Willem II - NEC 3 - 1								
de Graafschap - Feyenoord 2 - 7								
ADO den Haag - FC den Bosch 2 - 0								
SC Heerenveen - AZ 1 - 3								
Ajax - FC Twente 1 - 2								
Vitesse - Roda JC 3 - 0								
FC Utrecht - NAC 2 - 0								
RKC - FC Groningen 3 - 0								
		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1.	PSV	20	16	3	1	54	- 12	51
2.	AZ	20	15	4	1	49	- 14	49
3.	Ajax	20	12	5	3	44	- 19	41
4.	Feyenoord	20	10	5	5	50	- 27	35
5.	Vitesse	20	10	3	7	34	- 27	33
6.	FC Utrecht	20	9	5	6	25	- 21	32
7.	SC Heerenveen	20	9	5	6	34	- 33	32
8.	Roda JC	20	8	5	7	36	- 31	29
9.	RKC	20	7	6	7	26	- 27	27
10.	NAC	20	7	6	7	28	- 40	27
11.	FC Twente	20	7	4	9	24	- 26	25
12.	FC Groningen	20	7	4	9	28	- 36	25
13.	Willem II	20	7	4	9	25	- 33	25
14.	NEC	20	4	7	9	22	- 28	19
15.	ADO den Haag	20	5	4	11	23	- 31	19
16.	RBC	20	3	2	15	21	- 51	11
17.	de Graafschap	20	2	5	13	21	- 51	11
18.	FC den Bosch	20	2	3	15	11	- 48	9

Did You Know?

By Tony Persoglia

- **Ringwood City** were initially known as Wilhelmina.
- **Sunshine Georgies** were initially known as George Cross.
- **Western Eagles** were initially known as Polonia.

Mergers and NSL records

- Hellenic merged with South Melbourne United and Yarra Park in 1959 to form South Melbourne Hellas, who would later go on to win 7 state league titles and 4 NSL championships.

- Juventus would later merge with Box Hill and Bulleen to form what is now known as Bulleen Zebras. Brunswick Juventus won their only NSL championship in 1985, with Fab Incantalupo scoring in each leg of the grand final playoff against Sydney City.

- Wilhelmina capped off a remarkable rise in 1959, winning the Victorian State League after only 5 years in existence. They began their climb in the Victorian 4th Division in 1954, winning promotion in three successive seasons. They have failed to reach such heights since, and were relegated to the provisional leagues for the first time in 2003.

National Team News

SOCCEROOS LIVE ON SBS

Australia will line up against South Africa in Durban, in its first football international match for 2005.

Although ranked twenty places behind South African, that only made coach Frank Farina's team hungrier for its ultimate 1-0 victory when it last met South Africa in London in March 2004.

This will be an enormous year for the Australian team as it prepares for its Confederations Cup onslaught in June and World Cup qualifiers in September and hopefully November; on the road to Germany and the FIFA World Cup in 2006.

South Africa, host of the 2010 World Cup, however, has qualified for the last two World Cups but this will be its only warm-up match before it restarts its 2006 campaign in March.

The Australian squad, announced late last week, which will take to the field at the ABSA Stadium will include:- Paul Agostino, Marco Bresciano, Tim Cahill, Brett Emerton, Craig Moore and debutant Jason Culina.

In Sydney on Tuesday, the Premier of NSW, Mr Bob Carr, also announced the Socceroos plan to play an historical international match against Iraq on Easter Saturday – March 26, 2005 at Telstra Stadium.

"This historical match will help grow and strengthen the bond between our two countries," said Mr Carr.

Australia and Iraq's under 23 teams met in the quarter finals of the Athens 2004 Olympic Games Football Tournament where Iraq won 1-0.

The teams have not played a senior level international since March 1973, as part of Australia's successful 1974 FIFA World Cup

As the Official Broadcast Partner of the Socceroos, SBS Sport will present both internationals Exclusively LIVE.

The South African game – Thursday, February 10 will be hosted by Les Murray with Craig Foster in the Sydney studio and Simon Hill & Andrew Orsatti providing commentary and interviews direct from ABSA Stadium in Durban, South Africa.

SERMANNI DELIGHTED BY TEAMS PERFORMANCE

National Women's coach Tom Sermanni was absolutely delighted with the Qantas Matildas performance at the Four Nations Tournament held in China and can be optimistic about the future ahead with this current squad of players.

The team came agonisingly close to winning the four nations tournament last night after thrashing Russia 5-0 in their final match.

With the same number of competition points as the host nation but a two-goal deficit on goal difference, the Australians were hoping that Germany would defeat China by three goals but they fell just short with the Germans taking the final match 2-0.

So it left Australia and China locked on the same competition points and with six goals for and three against for the tournament leaving China to be awarded the championship due to

defeating Australia 3-0 when the two countries met on Sunday.

Coach Tom Sermanni was delighted with the team's performance.

"The girls played exceptionally well," said Sermanni.

"We expected that we could win this match but I was surprised by how much control we had."

"The tournament has been a good one for us and we will take a lot out of it."

The tournament marked several high points, with Australia inflicting a 1-0 defeat on current world champions Germany in their opening match; Cheryl Salisbury (pictured above) becoming the appearance record holder for the women's national team; and senior debuts for Youth internationals Collette McCallum and Kim Carroll.

GILL STARS IN AUSTRALIA FIVE-GOAL ROMP

The Matildas has put itself in a position to win the four nations tournament in China after thrashing Russia 5-0 in Quanzhou, China.

In what was the most convincing performance of any team at the tournament, the Australian team completely dominated its opponent to lead by two at the break and then add another three in the second half, with Kate Gill (pictured right) grabbing a double.

Australia is now relying on Germany to beat China by three goals in the last match of the tournament, to be crowned the winner.

Running with a strong wind in the first half, Australia had a lot of possession and pinned Russia back in its half for long periods.

The pressure nearly told in the 33rd minute, when the speedy Lisa De Vanna raced onto a long clearance by Cheryl Salisbury, however De Vanna's attempted lob was grabbed by the lanky Russian keeper.

That however proved to be only the prelude, as two minutes Australia opened the scoring. The impressive Gill beating her marker and laying off to De Vanna. Her flick pass was a gem to Heather Garriock, who shot across the keeper and inside the far post for a well worked goal.

Two minutes later De Vanna made it 2-0, when good work on the right saw Rhian Davies get free and whip a cross to the back post. Gill brought the ball down brilliantly with her chest and volleyed the ball back across goal, where De Vanna was hand to head home.

The Australian's didn't let up in the second half and it was Gill who got her just rewards with a goal, when she met a flick-on at the back post with a volley that gave the Russian keeper no chance.

Gill then grabbed a second with a simple tap in 11 minutes later, after a terrific run into the box by De Vanna.

The all important fifth goal that Australia needed to have any chance of winning the tournament duly arrived with five minutes remaining, when Gill again turned her defender, but was brought down in the box for a penalty. Salisbury made no mistake with her spot kick.

Calling All Soccer Fans!

Goal! Weekly, your new soccer newspaper dedicated to the Victorian scene, is on the lookout for contributions.

Feel free to post, fax, phone or email any news, views, photos, match reports, stories etc to us and we'll let the rest of the soccer community know what's going on down at your club.

Junior carnival coming up?
Made a great new signing?
Any soccer gossip?
Something on your chest?
We'd love to hear the details.

In fact , Goal! Weekly wants to know about anything and everything relating to the round ball game in Victoria, and we reckon you do too.

Our aim is to provide some long overdue coverage for the local game, but, unashamedly need as much help as possible to make it worthwhile.

We hope you enjoy what we've dished up so far and hope to hear from all parts of the Victorian soccer circles real soon.

GOAL! Weekly

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MELBOURNE -TIANJIN 25TH SISTER CITY ANNIVERSARY PRESENTS

VICTORIA
V
TIANJIN TEDA FC
(CHINA)

BOB JANE STADIUM
6PM

SUNDAY 13TH
FEBRUARY 2005

\$15 ADULTS
\$10 CONCESSION
FREE UNDER 16s



Left: Heidelberg's Bill Damianos shields the ball from Frankston's Spiro Athanasopoulos.



Right: Action from the "derby" between Knights and Preston.

VODAFONE VPL ROUND 2 ACTION



Fireworks aplenty at the big clash between the Lions and the Knights.



Above: Bentleigh's Marcelo Pena came under some close attention in the match against Bulleen Zebras.



Above: The Lions Of Preston.



Left: Angie Goutzioulis joins in the celebrations and applauds Bill Damianos after scoring Heidelberg's second goal in the 2-0 victory against Frankston Pines. Angie didn't do too badly himself and also got on the score-sheet